

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:  
RELATS, et al.

Filed: July 11, 2008

Appl. No. 10/589,745

Conf. No. 9531

Examiner: Marc A. PATTERSON

Art Unit: 1782

For: **PROTECTIVE TUBE**

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.114**

Mail Stop RCE  
P.O. Box 1450  
Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Commissioner:

This is a full and complete response, pursuant to a Request for Continued Examination (RCE), to the Final Office Action having a mailing date of August 3, 2011. The three month shortened statutory period to respond is set to expire November 3, 2011. Applicants petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fee deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 14-0112.

In view of the following amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the outstanding rejections and allow all claims pending in this application.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 5 of this paper.